

**REMARKS**

Applicant has reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on August 27, 2003, and the references cited therewith. The Abstract is amended to 150 words.

All claims 14-23 are cancelled, and claims 24-31 are added. Claims 1-13 and 24-31 are pending. The new claims are supported by original claims 14-20 and 1-3, and are directed to the elected invention.

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Applicant submitted an Information Disclosure Statement and a 1449 Form on February 8, 2001. Applicant respectfully requests that initialed copies of the 1449 Forms be returned to Applicants' Representatives to indicate that the cited references have been considered by the Examiner.

**Conclusion**

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney ((612) 373-6949) to facilitate prosecution of this application. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743

Respectfully submitted,

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By his Representatives,

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Date

27 Oct 2003

By

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Reg. No. 36,198

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 27 day of October, 2003.

Charles A. Lemaire

Name

Charles A. Lemaire

Signature